



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Chentsau Ying et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/991,166

FILED: November 16, 2001

FOR: METHOD OF REDUCING PARTICULATES
IN A METAL ETCH CHAMBER
DURING A METAL ETCH PROCESS

§ GROUP ART UNIT: 1765

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§ EXAMINER: L. Vinh

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§ Attorney Docket No.:

§ AM-5630.P1

Date: April 22, 2004

**RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT AND
REVISED AMENDMENT "A" UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Revised Amendment "A" is in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed April 8, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response of May 8, 2004. The original Amendment "A" was submitted on March 18, 2004. This Revised Amendment "A" is identical to applicant's original Amendment "A", except that the text of cancelled Claim 31 has been deleted.

Claims 1 - 60 are pending in the application.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.10

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as U.S. EXPRESS MAIL NO. ER452509585US in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: April 22, 2004


Shirley L. Church, Reg. No. 31,858

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01 FC:1252 420.00 DA
02 FC:1202 72.00 DA

Claims 2 and 12 are objected to due to various informalities.

Claims 1 - 4, 6, and 27 - 29 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,559,001, to Athavale et al.

Claims 5, 7, and 8 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,877,032, to Guinn et al.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,090,718, to Soga et al.

Claims 11 - 14, 16, 19 - 22, and 24 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of Soga et al.

Claims 15, 17, 18, 23, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of Soga et al., and further in view of Guinn et al.

Claims 30 - 37 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Athavale et al., in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,350,697, to Richardson et al.

Claims 38 - 51, 56, 57, and 59 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,411,631, to Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al.

Claims 52 and 53 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al., and further in view of Guinn et al.

Claims 54, 55, 58, and 60 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hori et al., in view of Athavale et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,789,867, to Westendorp et al.

Please amend the application as follows: